

REMARKS

The Office Action dated July 16, 2007 has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments to the amendments, and the following remarks, are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Following the current amendment, claims 1 and 3-30 are currently pending for consideration, of which claims 1, 24, 29, and 30 are independent. In particular, Applicants amended claims 1 and 3-28, cancelled claim 2 without prejudice or disclaimer, and added new claims 29 and 30. It is respectfully submitted that the amendments add no new subject matter to the present application and serve only to place the present application in better condition for examination. Therefore, entry of the amendments is respectfully requested. It is believed that all grounds for rejection in the Office Action have been addressed and that the present application is currently in condition for allowance in view of the amendment and the following arguments. Reconsideration of claims 1 and 3 through 30 is respectfully solicited.

The Office Action rejected claims 1-28 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,072,329 (Willars). According to the Office Action, Willars disclosed all recitations of these claims. However, as will be discussed below, each of the pending claims recites subject matter which is neither disclosed nor suggested in Willars. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection and request that this rejection be withdrawn in view of the following arguments.

Claim 1, from which claims 3-23 depend, recites a method for controlling an inter-working function linked with an Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM) transport network and an Internet Protocol (IP) transport network. The method includes the step of configuring the inter-working function to use a user defined information element of an existing protocol. The method also includes the step of using the existing protocol to establish data transport bearers to adapt a new protocol for controlling the transport bearers in a Transport Network Layer. The method further includes the step of conveying transport related information between entities in the ATM and IP transport networks for controlling the transport bearers in the Transport Network Layer.

Claim 24, from which claims 25-29 depend, relates to a system that includes an inter-working function linked with an Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM) transport network and an Internet Protocol (IP) transport network. The inter-working function includes a mapping entity that is configured to use a user defined information element of an existing protocol that is used for establishing data transport bearers, to adapt a new protocol for controlling the transport bearers in a Transport Network Layer. The mapping entity is further configured to convey transport related information between entities in the ATM and IP transport networks for controlling the transport bearers in the Transport Network Layer.

Claim 29 relates to an apparatus that includes controlling means for controlling an inter-working function linked with an Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM) transport network and an Internet Protocol (IP) transport network. The apparatus further includes a

mapping means for using a user-defined information element of an existing protocol for establishing data transport bearers to adapt a new protocol for controlling the transport bearers in a Transport Network Layer. The apparatus also includes a conveying means for conveying transport related information between entities in the ATM and IP transport networks for controlling the transport bearers in the Transport Network Layer.

Claim 30 recites a computer program embodied on a computer readable medium, the computer readable medium storing code that includes computer executable instructions configured to control an inter-working function linked with an Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM) transport network and an Internet Protocol (IP) transport network. The computer executable instructions perform the step of configuring the inter-working function to use a user defined information element of an existing protocol. The computer executable instructions further perform the step of using the existing protocol for establishing data transport bearers to adapt a new protocol for controlling the transport bearers in a Transport Network Layer. The computer executable instructions also perform the step of conveying transport related information between entities in the ATM and IP transport networks for controlling the transport bearers in the Transport Network Layer.

Applicants submit that each of the above-noted independent claims recites subject matter that is not taught or disclosed by Willars.

As described in FIG. 2A-2C and at Col. 8, line 3, to Col. 19, line 39, Willars generally relates to a multi-layer telecommunications system which includes an

application layer and a transport layer. Differing transport technologies are interworked without terminating the application layer signaling or without involving a technology inter-working in the control plane of the application layer (e.g., without interworking in the application signaling). For example, the application layer may be a radio network layer of a wireless telecommunications system. A transport layer interworking function may be situated on an interface between two nodes of the radio access network (RAN). The interworking function can be located in a separate node which may be a node having both ATM and internet protocol (IP) interfaces.

In particular, in Figure 9B, Willars discloses using a Served User Transport (SUT) information element between an inter-working function and an ATM node (RNC) in order to deliver the IP-address of an IP node to the inter-working function. Willars fails to teach or suggest using the SUT between the IP node and the inter-working function.

Claim 1 recites, in part, that a user-defined information element is used to convey transport related information between entities in ATM and IP transport networks for controlling the transport bearers in the Transport Network Layer. However, Willars does not disclose these recited elements of claim 1. In particular, as described above, Willars discloses that the SUT information element may be used between an inter-working function and an ATM node (RNC), but fails to teach or suggest using the SUT between the IP node and the inter-working function.

Therefore, claim 1 is allowable over Willars. Withdrawal of this rejection of claim 1 and reconsideration of this claim in view of the arguments are respectfully

requested. Likewise, claims 3-23 depend from claim 1 and should be allowable over Willars on similar grounds.

Independent claim 24, although different in scope from claim 1, contains similar recitations related to conveying transport related information between entities in ATM and IP transport networks for controlling the transport bearers in the Transport Network Layer. Thus, this independent claim should also be allowable over Willars. Claims 25-28 depend from claim 24 and should be also allowable over Willars on similar grounds.

In summary, since Rathunde does not disclose each and every recited element of the claims 1 and 3-28, this rejection is clearly improper and should be withdrawn. In view of the arguments presented herein, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1 and 3-28 are respectfully requested.

Similarly, new independent claims 29 and 30, although different in scope from claims 1 and 24, contain similar recitations related to conveying transport related information between entities in ATM and IP transport networks for controlling the transport bearers in the Transport Network Layer. Thus, claims 29 and 30 should also be allowable over Willars.

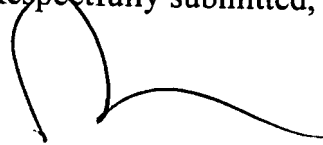
As discussed above, each of the pending claims 1 and 3-30, including independent claims 1, 24, 29 and 30, recites subject matter which is neither disclosed nor suggested in the cited references. Applicants submit that the recited subject matter is more than sufficient to render the invention non-obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art. It is respectfully requested that independent claims 1, 24, 29 and 30 and the related dependent

claims be allowed in view of the above arguments, comments, and remarks and that the present application be allowed to pass to issue.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the applicant's undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, the applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures: Additional Claim Fee Transmittal
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